

Arranging Essentials For The Worship Musician

Lesson 3: Understanding Your Rhythmic Space

If the arranging on the sonic spectrum is about what notes and chords are being played or sung, the rhythmic spectrum is about ***when and how often they're occurring***.

Our goal in arranging on the sonic spectrum is to create ***complementary*** rhythms.

The Verse

The verse is typically the busiest part of a song.

- It often has more words, and so more notes than other parts of the song.
- And in modern worship songs, the rhythm of the verse is often complex and syncopated in places to fit the lyrical phrases.
- It makes sense that we have less going on in with the instruments so it doesn't compete with the rhythm of the melody.

Rest

One of the biggest mistakes worship team members make is trying to fill every moment.

- We need to learn the what I call "the fine art of laying out."
- Often times, we're just too busy--we're not respecting the rhythmic space of the song.